UNITED NATIONS **A**

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Agenda item 44

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/49/L.66 and Add.1)]

49/244. World Week of Peace

The General Assembly,

Cognizant of the fact that the promotion of peace and the prevention of war are among the primary goals of the United Nations,

Recognizing that the Preamble to the Charter of the United Nations states that the peoples of the United Nations are determined to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, which twice in our lifetime has brought untold sorrow to mankind,

Recalling that the United Nations was established to prevent war and seek peace through peaceful means and through negotiation, as well as to promote international cooperation,

Recalling also its resolution 47/120 A of 18 December 1992, in which it welcomed the report of the Secretary-General entitled "An Agenda for Peace", 1/ stressing the importance of preventive diplomacy and peace-keeping operations,

Recalling that 1995 has been proclaimed the United Nations Year for Tolerance, 2/

1/ A/47/277-S/24111.

2/ See resolution 48/126.

Recognizing the important role that Disarmament Week, which will be observed concurrently with the World Week of Peace, is playing in promoting international peace and security,

Recognizing also that the United Nations is universal in nature and is the only instrument for global interdependence and cooperation that has the moral authority and the influence to promote and maintain world peace,

Recognizing further the importance of promoting the culture of peace,

Concerned that recent conflicts between States have brought with them deplorable ethnic strife, destruction and displacement of individuals and communities,

Deeply concerned at the large proportion of civilians, especially women and children, who have been injured or killed during the armed conflicts that have increased in recent years,

Recognizing that civil society organizations are now playing a more important role in promoting tolerance and understanding,

Convinced that a short period of peace resulting from a cease-fire or a truce can offer opportunities for building a just and lasting peace,

Noting with satisfaction the valuable initiative taken by the United Nations Children's Fund to facilitate "days of tranquillity" and "corridors of peace", which have been used to provide humanitarian relief, such as immunization, health care, food and clothing, to children trapped by armed conflicts,

1. Decides to proclaim the World Week of Peace, beginning on 24 October 1995, in solemn commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations;

2. Approves the Proclamation of the World Week of Peace, the text of which is annexed to the present resolution;

3. Invites all Member States to begin this task of cooperation with their own citizens and with civil society organizations, so as to give maximum publicity and assistance to the launching of the proclamation of a universal week of truce or cease-fire during the commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure the broadest possible dissemination of this resolution through the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat;

5. Also requests the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session.

105th plenary meeting
12 July 1995

ANNEX

Proclamation of the World Week of Peace

Whereas the General Assembly has decided unanimously to proclaim the World Week of Peace in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations,

Whereas the promotion of peace and the prevention of war are among the primary goals of the United Nations,

Whereas, in welcoming "An Agenda for Peace", the United Nations has rededicated itself to the effort to establish a universal peace according to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, signed at San Francisco,

Whereas, in increasing the size and scope of its peace-keeping operations, the United Nations has demonstrated its commitment to the task of peace-keeping and peacemaking,

Whereas the World Week of Peace offers a special opportunity for Governments, civil society organizations, local communities and individuals to take part in new initiatives for the commendable goal of conflict resolution, cease-fires and truces, and for a period of universal peace that could be used for the humanitarian relief that has become so critically necessary,

Accordingly,

The General Assembly

Solemnly proclaims the World Week of Peace, beginning on 24 October 1995, to coincide with the commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations.